

## **CURRENT STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

### **In the Claims**

The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined ("\_\_\_\_") being added and the language that contains strikethrough ("—") being deleted:

1. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule of the short-chain dehydrogenase (SCAD) gene family or a polypeptide encoded thereby or a fragment or a variant of said nucleic acid molecule or said polypeptide or an effector of a nucleic acid molecule of the SCAD gene family or said polypeptide, e.g. an antibody, an aptamer or another receptor recognizing a nucleic acid molecule of the SCAD gene family or said polypeptide encoded thereby, preferably together with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents and/or adjuvants.

2-10 (Canceled)

11. (Original) The composition of any one of claims 1-10 which is a diagnostic composition.

12. (Original) The composition of any one of claims 1-10 which is a therapeutic composition.

13. (Original) The composition of any one of claims 1-12 for the manufacture of an agent for detecting and/or verifying, for the treatment, alleviation and/or prevention of an disorders, including metabolic diseases such as obesity and other body-weight regulation disorders as well as related disorders such as metabolic syndrome, eating disorder, cachexia, diabetes mellitus, hypertension, coronary heart disease, hypercholesterolemia, dyslipidemia, osteoarthritis and/or gallstones and others, in cells, cell masses, organs and/or subjects.

14. (Original) Use of a nucleic acid molecule of the SCAD gene family or a polypeptide encoded thereby or a fragment or a variant of said nucleic acid molecule or said polypeptide or an effector, e.g. an antibody, an aptamer or another receptor recognizing a nucleic acid molecule of the SCAD gene family or a polypeptide encoded thereby for controlling the function of a gene and/or a gene product which is influenced and/or modified by a SCAD homologous polypeptide.

15. (Original) Use of the nucleic acid molecule of the SCAD gene family or a polypeptide encoded thereby or a fragment or a variant of said nucleic acid molecule or said polypeptide or an effector, e.g. an antibody, an aptamer or another receptor recognizing a nucleic acid molecule of the SCAD gene family or a polypeptide encoded thereby for identifying substances capable of interacting with a SCAD homologous polypeptide.

16-26 (Canceled)

27. (Original) Kit comprising at least one of (a) a SCAD nucleic acid molecule or a fragment thereof; (b) a vector comprising the nucleic acid of (a); (c) a host cell comprising the nucleic acid of (a) or the vector of (b); (d) a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid of (a); (e) a fusion polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid of (a); (f) an antibody, an aptamer or another receptor against the nucleic acid of (a) or the polypeptide of (d) or (e) and (g) an anti-sense oligonucleotide of the nucleic acid of (a).